GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2263
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2000
IMPORT OF PALM OIL
VIJAY KUMAR KHANDELWAL

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the date from which Palm oil has been brought under Open General Licence (O.G.L.) and the reasons therefor; (

(b) the quantity of Palm oil imported during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 so far and the countries from which it has been imported along with rate thereof; (

(c) whether the Government propose to increase custom duty on import of Palm oil and restrict its import in the interest of the farmers and oil industry of the country;

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefore; and

(e) the other consumer items which have been brought under the Open General Licence (O.G.L.) and the reasons therefore?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION

(SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD)

(a) Palm oil has been brought under OGL vide Notification dated 31st March, 1999.

(b) The import of crude palm oil during 1998-99 was negligible. A quantity of 21,136 metric tonne of crude palm oil has been imported during November, 1999 to January 2000. The import of crude palm oil is basically from Malaysia and Indonesia.The rates varied from 320 to 330 US Dollar CIF per metric tonne.

(c), (d) & (e) : With effect from 30.12.99, Government has increased custom duty on import of refined oils and has stipulated `actual user` condition for import of crude oils including crude palm oils. The main consideration in restricting the import of edible oils is the interest of the farmers and oil industry of the country.